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GENERAL NOTES.

It is reported that the eclipse party from the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, headed by Messrs. JONES and DAVIDSON, were favored with excellent weather conditions on August 21st, at their station at Minsk, Russia. It is stated that the corona was of the intermediate or square type, long equatorial streamers and polar streamers being absent. Many photographs were secured.

Another English party under Father CORTIE, S. J., sent out under the auspices of the permanent eclipse committee of the Royal Society and of the Royal Astronomical Society, met with equal success at a station near Hernoesand, Sweden.

At the meeting of the Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of America, which was held at Evanston, August 25th-28th, the name of the society, by unanimous vote, was changed to the American Astronomical Society. It was also voted to make the California meeting (August, 1915) the annual meeting for 1915.

The Canadian Government has definitely decided to erect the 72-inch reflector near Victoria, B. C. The site chosen is Saanich Hill, elevation 732 feet, about eight miles north of Victoria. The Government of British Columbia has provided $10,000 for the purchase of the site (fifty acres surrounding the summit) and the construction of a road about 1½ miles long, from the British Columbia Electric Railway line to the top of the hill. Writing in June, 1914, for the *Journal, R. A. S. C.*, Dr. PLASKETT says: "The road is to be built this season, and it is proposed to start the construction of the dome and building for the telescope first thing next spring. Word has been received from Paris that the disc for the mirror is ready for shipment and there is every prospect of the telescope being ready for erection next year." It is to be hoped that the European war will not interfere with this program.[1]

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[1] Later reports are that the disk has been received at Allegheny and work upon the mirror begun.

Preliminary investigation to determine the localities in Canada where the atmospheric conditions would be most suitable for the use of a large reflecting telescope was carried out by Mr. W. E. HARPER of the Dominion Observatory. From his report it appeared that if the telescope were not to be kept at Ottawa, Victoria was the only station that need be seriously considered. The superiority of this station over Ottawa in respect to "seeing" (3.8 to 2.6 on a scale of 5) and low range of night temperature (3°.8 C. as compared to 7°.6 C) decided the question.

It is stated in *Science* that the Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association is soliciting funds to endow an astronomical fellowship at the Harvard College Observatory. Upwards of $1,500 have been subscribed towards the $12,000 desired.

We record with great regret the death of three well-known European astronomers: CARL FREDERICK PECHÜLE, "Observator," of the University Observatory at Copenhagen since 1888, who died on May 28, 1914, at the age of 71 years; RUDOLF LEHMANN FILHÉS, "Honorar-professor" at the University of Berlin, who died on May 30, 1914, at the age of 60 years; and HERMANN J. KLEIN, of Köln-Lindenthal, editor of the popular astronomical journal *Sirius*, whose recent death, at the age of 72, is recorded in *Science*.